Stopping jute procurement in Andhra Pradesh by JCI

768. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has stopped procuring jute from the jute growing districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons for stopping the procurement;

(c) whether any steps are being taken by Government to help the farmers of Andhra Pradesh to grow good quality jute;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government is implementing following schemes to help farmers to grow good quality Jute:—

(i) Jute Technology Mission—Mini Mission-I has the objective to strengthen agricultural research and Technology achievements. Mini Mission-II has the objective of development/extension of raw jute and transfer of improved technology. Mini Mission-Ill has the objective of improving the yield and quality of jute fiber by developing improved retting procedure and to develop efficient market linkages for raw jute by establishing/upgrading marketing infrastructure and the construction of Departmental Procurement Centres and new storage premises.

(ii) Jute Corporation of India through 8 centres in Andhra Pradesh undertakes MSP operations in Jute to provide price support to farmers.

(iii) Jute Corporation of India also supplements in distribution of certified seeds through its DPCs

(iv) Depending on quality, the Government has laid down Minimum Support Price for different varieties of Jute grown in Andhra Pradesh as under:

| 0. Top | S. Mid | Mid | Bot | B.Bot | X. Bot |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1117 | 1077 | 1037 | 997 | 937 | 802 |

(e) Does not arise.

**Non-Availability of Cotton at Economical Rates in T.N.**

769. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received any representation from Tamil Nadu regarding non-availability of cotton at economical rates because of which closer of spinning mills and handloom industry has taken place in Tamil Nadu;